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March 26, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Reply Comments – IB Docket No. 11-109; Public Notice DA 12-214

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I write today to strongly urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to reconsider its proposed actions as stated in Public Notice DA 12-214. As a user of commercial maritime GPS equipment and a small business owner, I unconditionally support the future development GPS applications. However, these developments should not come at the expense of LightSquared's nationwide 4G-LTE network. If the reason that the FCC proposes revoking LightSquared's 2004 authorization hinges on NTIA's February 14, 2012 communication, the FCC should instead promptly re-assign LightSquared to other commercially equivalent spectrum that will both prevent impacting legacy GPS equipment and enable Americans to benefit from LightSquared's network.

NTIA is correct in its findings that LightSquared can not likely do anything to fully mitigate potential interference because, in fact, the ability to reduce interference is largely in the hands of GPS equipment developers. LightSquared, or even the government user-base it appears, cannot control how wide-open or unfiltered a GPS device can be in its own licensed spectrum. What LightSquared can, and has done, is limit its transmissions into the GPS band. It is only fair to American consumers of increasingly convergent wireless devices that GPS equipment developers incorporate the filtering components that will allow users to access both LightSquared and GPS services. However, if the FCC deems this a political and technical impossibility before LightSquared's conditional deadline of deploying nationwide before 2016, I urge the FCC to shift LightSquared to other spectrum or find an alternative solution that will enable the company to deploy its unique satellite-terrestrial network.

The FCC should find a path forward quickly because demand for wireless broadband is growing as quickly as major carriers impose data caps, throttle data usage, and raise rates. The lack of competition combined with a relative dearth of spectrum purposed for 4G-LTE enables mobile operators to simultaneously price gouge users and offer poorer service. Instead of driving innovation for more devices like the new iPad 3 and applications that can be created using such devices, the FCC's decision to completely lay waste to wireless spectrum that would have provided multitudes of retailers to provide a service at least equivalent to what Verizon is providing in terms of spectrum bandwidth is mind-boggling.

For boaters like me, the FCC's proposed decision decimates our hope to use dual-mode devices on LightSquared's integrated satellite-terrestrial network. Commercialized use of its satellite communications capacity would be a significant boon to those of us who currently do not have the ability to make calls when out of cell-tower range. Moreover, the FCC's decision wipes out LightSquared's concerted efforts to meet their FCC coverage requirements via wholesale partnerships with mobile providers in rural and underserved areas – areas that would finally be covered by the type of wireless broadband service that AT&T and Verizon have only made available in metropolitan areas. As the Rural Cellular Association commented in this very docket on March 20, 2012: "LightSquared stands as one of the most attractive alternative pathways to 4G for smaller carrier seeking a nationwide footprint and enhanced speeds without the means to build out their own nationwide networks."

At a time when government should be encouraging as much private investment in our economy, it is unfathomable that the FCC is proposing in one sweeping Public Notice to: 1) reject \$14 billion; 2) lessen significant competition in the wireless market; and 3) give tacit approval to GPS equipment developers to continue selling interference-prone devices. Alternatively, the FCC can find other spectrum for LightSquared and allow the company to invest in America, bring the tremendous benefits increased competition and spectrum can provide to American consumers and push GPS equipment manufacturers to develop and sell more interference-resistant devices to users whose livelihoods rely on such devices. I strongly urge the FCC to take these alternative, yet prudent steps forward.

Thank for you considering these reply comments.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jude Poggiali". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small dot at the end.

Jude Poggiali